

East Whatcom Community Council Clean Air Committee (CAC) Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, August 10, 2022 @ 4:30-6:00 p.m.

VIA VIDEO CONFERENCE - Please email sethp@nwcleanairwa.gov to receive your link to attend.

CAC Charge: The charge of the East Whatcom Community Council Clean Air Committee is to work jointly with the Northwest Clean Air Agency to develop a comprehensive, community-based, long-range plan designed to improve the air quality in the East Whatcom County Region.

Committee Guidelines:

1. Listen to understand, not to respond; seek clarity.
2. Voice opinions and questions openly in the meeting and not after; speak for yourself; everyone's opinion is valuable and worthy of attention.
3. Conflict over a topic is healthy; take nothing personally; engage in debate.
4. Do not expect consensus or certainty.
5. Explain why you don't agree with a proposal, but when a decision is made, buy in.
6. If people look like they have something to say, encourage them to speak.

Co-Chairs: Rebecca Cayen, Carl McDaniel

Members: Jerry DeBruin & David Moe – WCFD #14; Aly Robinson – Whatcom County Health Department; Mark Schofield – Opportunity Council; Curtis Metz, Jacob Johnson, Gabe Nelson – Whatcom County Fire Marshal; Viktor Vetkov – Slavic Church; Dean Zender & David Camp – Wood Bank; Seth Preston – NW Clean Air Agency

Present: Rebecca Cayen, Curtis Metz, Mark Schofield, Aly Robinson, Jacob Johnson, Seth Preston

Agenda items:

- 1. Introductions**
- 2. Approval of June 8, 2022, meeting summary – meeting minutes approved.**

Motion: Aly Robinson
Second: Mark Schofield
Passes: Unanimous
- 3. Open public comment – None.**
- 4. Announcements – None.**
- 5. Wood stove replacement update –** Mark said 8 changeouts have been completed (with heat pumps and woodstoves) and 4 other projects are in process.
- 6. Wood Bank update –** Dean/David were not present.
- 7. Outreach opportunities –**

Seth – Attended Summerfest on August 6 at the Kendall School. The event has promise going forward in terms of NWCAA's involvement and attendance. The attendees included a lot of young children, which points to the need for NWCAA to upgrade its "giveaway" items and make sure the materials available as handouts skew toward kids. Seth will start pricing materials, assessing what is on hand, and look into purchasing the materials using available state grant money earmarked for communications.

8. NWCAA update – Seth

Seth – No exceedances of the national PM2.5 standard were detected.

Received 13 complaints about smoke from a planned burn in the Red Mountain area. Some complainants expressed concerns about the fire potentially starting a wildfire.

Jacob – The Fire Marshal’s Office received similar complaints. The permit holder was denied additional days of burning because of public feedback.

Next meeting will be October 12, 2022.